

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000143

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Impact on the group with no income data

Question

In relation to the Minister's media release from 30 January 2016 "One million families to benefit from child care reforms".

Why doesn't the Government know the impact these changes will have on some families (12,800)? Will the Department be able to work out what impact it will have on these families? When? Are they likely to be on income support? If so, are they likely to be eligible for 12 hours per low-income week activity test exemption?

Answer

At the time data was extracted for inclusion in the model, approximately 12,800 families had not reported their income to the Department of Human Services. Without income details the department cannot accurately estimate the impact for these families.

The model assumes these families are on income support and therefore, earning incomes of \$65,710 or less. If they are undertaking no activity and do not qualify for any other exemptions, these families will be eligible for the 12 hours per week activity test exemption.